

Tropical Depression 27W

TD 27W was a poorly organized tropical cyclone, which failed to develop due to unfavorable environmental conditions. This cyclone formed from a loosely organized cluster of convection in the central South China Sea, with maximum winds along the periphery of the circulation. Like TD 26W, TD 27W experienced a slight increase in organization and then a steady state with a 30 kt intensity for about 24 hours, then weakened and dissipated in the South China Sea.

The first warning was issued at 190900Z December and forecast northwest movement toward Vietnam with maximum winds of 40 kt. The cyclone drifted north to northeastward at 3 to 6 kt during the first 18 hours. TD 27W had a poorly defined low-level circulation center with disorganized convection and subsequently failed to consolidate and organize any further. During this initial period, the cyclone accelerated slightly on the northeastward track while maintaining a 30-knot intensity. The cyclone turned more east-northeastward and weakened as it moved into a greater vertical wind shear environment associated with strong mid to upper tropospheric westerly flow. JTWC issued the final warning at 220300Z December as the cyclone dissipated in the South China Sea just south of Pratas Island.

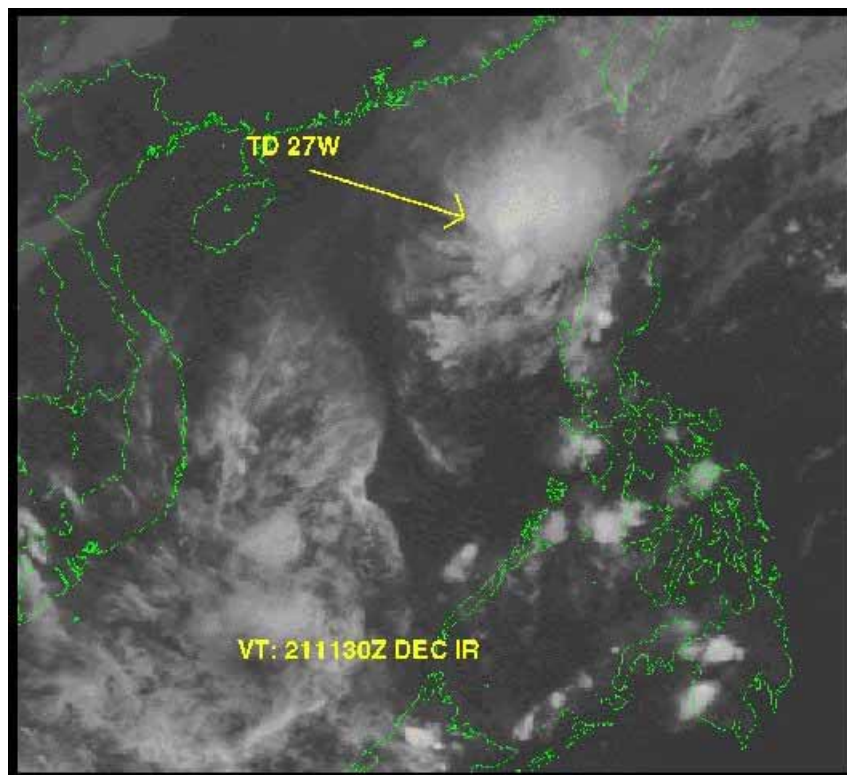


Figure 3-27-1. 211130Z December infrared satellite imagery depicting TD 27W about 12 hours prior to final warning.

